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To: Microsoft ATR

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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Why perpetuate the endless process that allows government to intervene in the private sector. While anti-trust protection is important we must look at overall benefit Microsoft has provided to the USA economy over the past decade. Who else has demonstrated leadership in this technology beside Microsoft? Others have meager Research and Development budgets and have fallen to the superior product developed through intense R & D efforts. Why should anyone else continue to reap benefit (settlements) from Microsoft? Has the general public complained and refused to purchase Microsoft products? What would the final effect be on the USA citizens if the Government Agencies pursuing this issue forced Microsoft into ineffective management structure or even out of business? At some point the letter of the law must be compromised to ensure the effective tools are available that fuel the small-business engine as it concerns the overall economy. Large mainframe computers and their technology do not drive the economy today the way it might have when laws were written. Let it go and perhaps Microsoft will have enough financial resources to continue to provide the tools we all need. It would be a travesty of justice if state governments realized financial gain from this process.